Developing Nursing Research in Wales

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This presentation

- Policy context
- NISCHR’s role
- Challenges for nursing and midwifery
- Development work
Together for Health

A Five Year Vision for the NHS in Wales
Together for Health – R&D

- Recognises important role NHS plays in-conjunction with HEI sector – improving care & saving lives
- Creates economic development – contributes to general prosperity
- Attracts the best expertise into the Welsh health service
National Institute for Social Care and Health Research

NISCHR is the Welsh Government body that develops, in consultation with partners, strategy and policy for research in the NHS and social care in Wales.
Figure 1: The Health and Social Care Research and Innovation Structure and Functions of NISCHR

NISCHR Welsh Government

NISCHR leads on strategy, policy, commissioning, funding, contract management and governance of NHS & social care R&D. NISCHR runs a range of responsive funding schemes and the NHS R&D funding allocation. Key relationships with Welsh Government are with BETS Life Sciences team, the Chief Scientist's Department and Department for Education and Skills.

Academic Health Science Collaboration
- Hosts NHS Permissions unit and ethics service, builds NHS capacity, monitors NHS R&D allocations, and facilitates industrial collaboration

Academic Social Care Research Collaboration
- A social care research capacity building pilot scheme

Biomedical Research Centres
- Support for four flagship high-quality translational research groups to help them deliver

Clinical Research Centre
- Support via research workforce portfolio management, training and development

NHS (RS&G)
- Support and develops local NHS R&D strategies, administers support funding, facilitates and monitors research

Networks (RRGs)
- Networks of researchers who generate proposals, win grants, deliver and disseminate

Trials Units & Infrastructure Groups
- Support and deliver high quality research

NHS & social care
Universities
Industry
People, patients, service users, carers

Community
Together for Research and Innovation

A Health and Social Care Research and Development Strategy 2012-2015

Department for Health and Social Services

Science for Wales Delivery Plan
Together for Research and Innovation (R&D Strategy 2012 – 2015)

Three aims:
1. Stimulating and rewarding excellence and innovation
2. Improving the research environment
3. Investing in the future.
Science for Wales: Delivery Plan 2012

Key activities in health & social care:

• Research and innovation as core to improving health and social care outcomes.

• Effective collaboration between NHS Wales, businesses and universities in Wales to enable speedier introduction of new technology into the NHS and more innovative and rapid translation of research outcomes into patient benefit and business opportunities.

• Ease of contact between patients and researchers to optimise the amount, quality and diversity of health research undertaken in Wales.
Continued

• The creation of a strong life sciences and health ecosystem in Wales, to bring the whole sector together and amplify what is most excellent to a global audience.

• Stronger arrangements for bringing together institutions, disciplines and activities. We will draw in stakeholders, partners and investors, driving projects from bench through bedside to commercialisation, and confidently projecting the sector to a global audience.

• Adequate and appropriate funding for the translation and commercialisation of innovative research. This must offer a genuine alternative to licensing and enable businesses to grow quickly from start-up to global reach without leaving Wales.
Challenges for nursing and midwifery

• Not enough trained researchers – research training fellowships – need to engage staff earlier in careers
• Limited clinical academic posts – few staff have R&D in job description – no time built into their work for this activity
• Effects of economic downturn on investing in R&D activities
• NHS restructuring and service reconfiguration a priority at present – it is an opportunity to think about this agenda
Engaging staff

• Do nurses and midwives understand this agenda and want to engage? Activity in 1000 Lives work good – do we build on this?
• Organisations need to support and encourage staff to turn good ideas into products – not enough industry engagement
• Need to have programmes of research not individual projects – need to build multidisciplinary research communities
• We need to value research that explores the human experience - lead to better approaches to care.
University status

3 Health Boards already have university status – others are seeking it.

• What difference does this make?
• What should this mean in practice?
Developments

• Research training is available – contracts with HEIs, RCBC Wales fellowships, NISCHR fellowships, charitable funding, eg Florence Nightingale Foundation and Burdett Trust.

• Reviewing roles in nursing and midwifery
  – Current work looking at Health Professional Consultant role and its relationship to clinical academic and advanced practice roles.
  – Review of advanced practice standards
  – Review of Post Registration Career Framework for Nurses

• Wales is promoted as a good place to do research – has influenced organisations to develop roles in Wales – RCM Chair, RCN Chair and Florence Nightingale Foundation Clinical Chair

• Community Nursing Research Strategy for Wales (2013) – linked to the Wales School of Primary Care Research – planning event for autumn – 150 potential projects identified
Working together

Service, Education and Research communities need to work together and with Industry to make sure the health and social care services we have in Wales are the best they can be.